

Claim 9 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Burrell reference in view of United States Patent No. 5,926,119 to Lindeman (“the Lindeman reference”).

Three basic criteria must be met to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness. First, the prior art references must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. Second, the references or the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art must provide some suggestion or motivation to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Third, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. M.P.E.P. § 2143.

As described above, the Burrell reference fails to disclose at least “a car radio having a front panel including a horizontally positioned holder, the front panel including a radio circuit for receiving a broadcast radio program” and “a handset capable of functioning as one of a control unit for a car radio and a telephone, the handset being inserted into the ... holder ... and providing a control signal to the radio circuit,” as recited in amended Claim 7, from which Claim 9 depends. The Lindeman reference also fails to disclose these elements. Since the Burrell and Lindeman references fail to disclose or suggest each and every element of Claim 9, these references cannot render Claim 9 obvious under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 12 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Burrell reference in view of United States Patent No. 4,737,656 to Gottlieb (“the Gottlieb reference”). As described above, the Burrell reference fails to disclose at least “a car radio having a front panel including a horizontally positioned holder, the front panel including a radio circuit for receiving a broadcast radio program” and “a handset capable of functioning as one of a control unit for a car radio and a telephone, the handset being inserted into the ... holder ... and providing a control signal to the radio circuit,” as recited in amended Claim 7, from which Claim 12 depends. The Gottlieb reference also fails to disclose or suggest these elements. Since the Burrell and Gottlieb references fail to disclose each and every element of Claim 12, these references cannot render Claim 12 obvious under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that this rejection be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Prompt reconsideration and allowance of the present application are therefore earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

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By:

Richard Mayer
Richard L. Mayer
Reg. No. Reg. No. 22,490
KENYON & KENYON
CUSTOMER NO. 26646
(S)
R. L.
R. No.
36,197)

AMENDMENT VERSION WITH MARKUPS

7. (Amended) A car radio, comprising:

a front panel including a horizontally positioned holder, the front panel including a radio circuit for receiving a broadcast radio program;

a detachable handset capable of functioning as one of a control unit for a car radio and a telephone, the handset being inserted into the horizontally positioned holder in the front panel of the car radio and providing a control signal to the radio circuit;

a screen; and

control keys provided with a labeling oriented along a first axis that is rotated out of a usual vertical alignment of the handset in a mounted position by an angle between 30 and 60 degrees in a direction of a longitudinal axis of the handset in order to render the labeling easy to read in each one of a plurality of operating positions of the handset.